

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 0725

FODAG

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNWFC, OCON

SUBJ: WORKING GROUP ON WORLD FOOD COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE:

SUGGESTIONS BEING CONSIDERED BY GROUP 77 THAT WOULD ENHANCE
ROLE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

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1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF COMMENTS GIVEN BY NEW FAO DIRECTOR-
GENERAL EDOUARD SOUMA TO GROUP 77 WORKING GROUP PREPARING FOR
JANUARY 19 MEETING ON WORLD FOOD COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE.
US POSSESSION OF TEXT SHOULD BE HELD CLOSELY. STATUS OF THESE
SUGGESTIONS IS STILL UNSETTLED. GROUP 77 WORKING GROUP REPORTEDLY
TOOKD POSITION THAT GOVERNMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSULTED,
UNCLUDING GOVERNMENTS OF ALL GROUP 77 COUNTRIES.

2. QUOTE: COMMENTS REGARDING THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE
WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC). I - AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO THE TEXT
OF THE DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE (WFC/WG/4).

RULE 2 - THE AMENDMENT TO THE TEXT PROVIDES FOR SPECIAL SESSIONS
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TO BE HELD AT THE REQUEST OF THE FAO CONFERENCE OR COUNCIL.

RULE 5 - THE AMENDMENT PROVIDES FOR THE FAO CONFERENCE, COUNCIL OR DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO PROPOSE ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA.

RULE 8 - AS ABOVE, FOR THE INCLUSION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA.

RULE 25, PARAGRAPH 2 - THE PRESENT TEXT DOES NOT DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT EMPHASIZES THAT THE WFC SECRETARIAT SHALL RELY TO THE MAXIMUM FEASIBLE EXTENT ON FAO AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND SHALL AVOID DUPLICATING THEIR ACTIVITIES. IT ALSO PERMITS THE IDENTIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY FAO.

RULE 26 - THE MENDMENT PROVIDES FOR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FAO TO MAKE ORAL AS WELL AS WRITTEN STATEMENTS CONCERNING ANY QUESIION UNDER CONSIDERATION.

RULE 35 - THE AMENDMENT PROVIDES FOR REPORTS OF THE WFC TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE FAO CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL.

RULE 61 - THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT IS NOT SATISFACTORY AS IT WOULD PERMIT OFFICERS OF FAO COUNCIL COMMITTEES (COMMISSION ON FERTILIZERS, COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY) AND EVEN THE SECRETARIES OF THESE COMMITTEES (STAFF MEMBERS OF FAO) TO BYPASS THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO AND PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS OF THE WFC WHEN THE REPORTS OF THESE COMMITTEES ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE PRESENT TEXT IN THIS REGARD BE OMITTED.

II - THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: THE QUESTION OF APPOINTENT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND HIS RELATIONS WITH THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO MUST BE EXAMINED IN THE LIGHT OF THE FOLLOWING THREE POINTS: (1) WHILE THE WFC HAS THE FUNCTION TO COORDINATE PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM REGARDING FOOD, FAO IS ALMOST ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUBSTANCE. (2) RESOLUTION XXII OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE STATES CLEARLY IN ITS

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OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 (B) THAT "IT SHOULD BE SERVICED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF FAO, WITH HEADQUARTERS AT ROME." (3) RESOLUTION 3348 (XXIX) STATES IN ITS OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 11 "REQUESTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO, TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION FOR ESTABLISHING A SECRETARIAT FOR THE WFC, AS SET FORTH IN RESOLUTION XXII....". THESE POINTS PROVIDE ALL THE ARGUMENTS NECESSARY FOR ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING THE WFC SECRETARIAT TO

BE MADE IN FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO.
IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING RULES BE INSERTED IN THE
RULES OF PROCEDURE: APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL SHALL BE APPOINTED
JOINTLY BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND BY
THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MEMBERS
OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS.

DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - RULE 24

1. THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHALL EXERCISE HIS DUTIES UNDER
THE AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO IN ALL
MATTERS OF POLICY, PROGRAMMES AND ADMINISTRATION WITHIN
FAO'S FIELDS OF COMPETENCE, AND UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN RESPECT OF
ALL OTHER FIELDS.
2. THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHALL APPOINT THE STAFF FOR THE
SECRETARIAT, EXCEPT THOSE OF SENIOR LEVEL WHO SHALL BE
APPOINTED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY BOTH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO.
3. THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SHALL SUBMIT SIMULTANEOUSLY TO
THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE
UNITED NATIONS HIS PROPOSALS FOR THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AND
BUDGET OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, FOR
SUBMISSION TO AND APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNING BODIES CONCERNED
OF THE TWO ARRANGEMENTS.

PARAGRAPH 1 TO 4 OF THE PRESENT TEXT COULD REMAIN AND BE
INSERTED, AFTER RENUMBERING, AFTER THE ABOVE MENTIONED THREE
PARAGRAPHS. VOLPE
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